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Karakalpak language

Karakalpak is a Turkic language spoken by Karakalpaks in Karakalpakstan. It is divided into two dialects, Northeastern Karakalpak and Southeastern Karakalpak. It developed alongside neighboring Kazakh and Uzbek languages, being markedly influenced by both. Typologically, Karakalpak belongs to the Kipchak branch of the Turkic languages, thus being closely related to and partially mutually intelligible to Kazakh.[3]

Contents

Karakalpak	
Qaraqalpaq tili, Қарақалпақ тили, قاراقالپاق تىلى	
Native to	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan
Region	Karakalpakstan
Native speakers	583,410 (2010)[1]

Language family	Turkic
	• Common Turkic
	  • Kipchak
	    • Kipchak–Nogai[2]
	      • **Karakalpak**

Official status	
Official language in	🏳 Uzbekistan • 🏳 Karakalpakstan
Language codes	
ISO 639-2	kaa (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?code_ID=219)
ISO 639-3	kaa
Glottolog	kara1467 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/kara1467)[2]

Map showing locations of Karakalpak (red) within Uzbekistan

Classification

Karakalpak is a member of the Kipchak branch of Turkic languages, which includes Tatar, Kumyk, Nogai and Kazakh. Due to its proximity to Uzbek, much of Karakalpak's vocabulary and grammar has been influenced by Uzbek. Like the vast majority of Turkic languages, Karakalpak has vowel harmony, is agglutinative and has no grammatical gender. Word order is usually subject–object–verb.

Geographic distribution

Karakalpak is spoken mainly in the Karakalpakstan Autonomous Republic of Uzbekistan. Approximately 2,000 people in Afghanistan and smaller diaspora in parts of Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkey and other parts of the world speak Karakalpak.
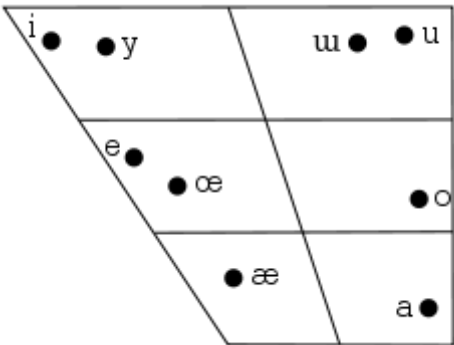
Official status

Karakalpak has official status in the Karakalpakstan Autonomous Republic.

Dialects

The Ethnologue identifies two dialects of Karakalpak: Northeastern and Southwestern. Menges mentions a third possible dialect spoken in the Fergana Valley. The Southwestern dialect has /tʃ/ for the Northeastern /ʃ/.

Phonology

Karakalpak has 21 native consonant phonemes and regularly uses four non-native phonemes in loan words. Non-native sounds are shown in parentheses.

Karakalpak vowels, from Menges (1947:?)

Consonants

		Labial	Labiodental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
Nasal		m		n		ŋ		
Stop	**voiceless**	p		t		k	q	
	voiced	b		d		g		
Affricate				(t͡s)	(t͡ʃ)			
Fricative	**voiceless**		(f)	s	ʃ	x		h
	voiced		(v)	z	ʒ	ɣ		
Trill				r				
Approximant				l	j	w		

Vowels

	Front		Back	
	Spread	**Rounded**	**Spread**	**Rounded**
Close	i	y	ɯ	u
Mid	e	œ		o
Open	æ		a	

Vowel harmony

Vowel harmony functions in Karakalpak much as it does in other Turkic languages. Words borrowed from Russian or other languages may not observe rules of vowel harmony, but the following rules usually apply:

Vowel	May be followed by:
a	a, ɯ
æ	e, i
e	e, i
i	e, i
o	a, o, u, ɯ
œ	e, i, œ, y
u	a, o, u
y	e, œ, y
ɯ	a, ɯ

Vocabulary

Personal pronouns

men I, *sen* you (singular), *ol* he, she, it, that, *biz* we, *siz* you (plural), *olar* they

Numbers

bir 1, *eki* 2, *úsh* 3, *tórt* 4, *bes* 5, *altı* 6, *jeti* 7, *segiz* 8, *toǵıs* 9, *on* 10, *júz* 100, *mıń* 1000

Writing system

Karakalpak was written in the Arabic and Persian script until 1928, in the Latin script (with additional characters) from 1928 to 1940, after which Cyrillic was introduced. Following Uzbekistan's independence in 1991, the decision was made to drop Cyrillic and revert to the Latin alphabet. Whilst the use of Latin script is now widespread in Tashkent, its introduction into Karakalpakstan remains gradual.

The Cyrillic and Latin alphabets are shown below with their equivalent representations in the IPA. Cyrillic letters with no representation in the Latin alphabet are marked with asterisks. The last changes to the new Karakalpak alphabet were made in 2016: instead of letters with apostrophes, letters with acutes were

introduced.[4] Therefore, the new Karakalpak alphabet will act in the same way the new Kazakh and Uzbek alphabets represent – that is, with acutes.

March 2006. A photo laboratory in Nukus – with the signboard written in Karakalpak language using Latin alphabet.

Cyrillic	Latin	IPA	Cyrillic	Latin	IPA	Cyrillic	Latin	IPA
Аа	Aa	/a/	Қҡ	Qq	/q/	Фф	Ff	/f/
Әә	Ää	/æ/	Лл	Ll	/l/	Хх	Xx	/x/
Бб	Bb	/b/	Мм	Mm	/m/	һh	Hh	/h/
Вв	Vv	/v/	Нн	Nn	/n/	Цц	Cc	/ts/
Гг	Gg	/g/	Ңң	Ńń	/ŋ/	Чч	Çç	/tʃ/
Ғғ	Ğğ	/ɣ/	Оо	Oo	/o/	Шш	Şş	/ʃ/
Дд	Dd	/d/	Өө	Öö	/œ/	Щщ*	Şç şç	/ʃ/
Ее	Ee	/e/	Пп	Pp	/p/	Ъъ*		
Ёё*	yo	/jo/	Рр	Rr	/r/	Ыы	Iı	/ɯ/
Жж	Jj	/ʒ/	Сс	Ss	/s/	Ьь*		
Зз	Zz	/z/	Тт	Tt	/t/	Ээ	Ee	/e/
Ии	İi	/i/	Уу	Uu	/u/	Юю*	yu	/ju/
Йй	Yy	/j/	Үү	Üü	/y/	Яя	ya	/ja/
Кк	Kk	/k/	Ўў	Ww	/w/			

Before 2009, C was written as TS; I and I' were written as dotted and dotless I.[5]

Users

- A'jiniyaz

See also

References

1. Karakalpak (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/kaa/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Kara-Kalpak" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/kara1467). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

3. "Karakalpak" (http://www.ethnologue.com/language/kaa). *Ethnologue*. Retrieved 2016-03-12.

4. "Латын жазыўына тийкарланған қарақалпақ әлипбеси" (https://web.archive.org/web/20171224041251/http://www.karsu.uz/index.php/kk/9-uncategorised/904-latyn-zhazy). *Каракалпакский государственный университет им. Бердаха* (in Kara-Kalpak). Archived from the original (http://www.karsu.uz/index.php/kk/9-uncategorised/904-latyn-zhazy) on 2017-12-24. Retrieved 2018-01-27.

5. Karakalpak Cyrillic – (Old / New) Latin transliterator (http://www.transliteration.kpr.eu/kaa/)

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- Menges, Karl H. (1947), *Qaraqałpaq Grammar*, Translated from German by Leora P. Cunningham, New York: King's Crown Press, OCLC 3615928 (https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/3615928)

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